



SOWK12013 Contemporary Social Policy

Term 1 - 2017

Profile information current as at 16/05/2024 01:11 pm

All details in this unit profile for SOWK12013 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

This unit explores the historical, political and normative dimensions of social policy and policy-making in Australia and the international context. You will explore concepts such as the welfare state and neo-liberalism and you will examine and critically analyse social policy that is relevant to the human service context.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 2*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 10

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Successful completion of 48 credit points in any course.

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 1 - 2017

- Distance

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes - in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Online Quiz(zes)**

Weighting: 40%

2. **Group Discussion**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

3. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 30%

4. **Online Quiz(zes)**

Weighting: 30%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from Student evaluation Personal feedback

Feedback

Students reported to enjoy the eFIL assessments activities.

Recommendation

Retain the eFIL assessment activities.

Action

Maintain the eFIL assessment activity.

Feedback from Student evaluation Personal feedback

Feedback

Students commented that they enjoyed the course, the interactive nature of the course, and the engagement by the lecturer.

Recommendation

Continue to use interactive teaching methods to engage students with the course content.

Action

Actively participated in group discussions and provided a range of learning resources to increase student engagement and participation.

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast the inherent value-judgements associated with social policy making
2. Describe the nature of social policy making in Australia
3. Apply a theoretical understanding of the policy process to selected social policy context
4. Analyse the strategies and processes of policy development, analysis, negotiation and advocacy in a range of policy context in the Australian context
5. Analyse their performance from feedback drawn from their involvement in professional learning contexts

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes				
	1	2	3	4	5
1 - Online Quiz(zes) - 40%	•	•	•	•	
2 - Group Discussion - 0%	•	•	•	•	
3 - Written Assessment - 30%	•	•	•	•	•
4 - Online Quiz(zes) - 30%	•	•	•	•	

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes				
	1	2	3	4	5
1 - Communication	•	•	•	•	•
2 - Problem Solving	•	•	•	•	
3 - Critical Thinking	•	•	•	•	•
4 - Information Literacy	•	•	•	•	
5 - Team Work					
6 - Information Technology Competence	•	•	•	•	•
7 - Cross Cultural Competence	•			•	
8 - Ethical practice					
9 - Social Innovation					
10 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures					

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Graduate Attributes

Assessment Tasks	Graduate Attributes									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1 - Online Quiz(zes) - 40%		•	•	•		•				
2 - Group Discussion - 0%	•	•	•	•			•			
3 - Written Assessment - 30%	•	•	•	•	•	•		•		
4 - Online Quiz(zes) - 30%		•	•	•		•				

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

SOWK12013

Prescribed

Social Policy in Australia: Understanding for Action

Third Edition (2014)

Authors: Edited by Alison McLelland and Paul Smyth

Oxford University Press

Melbourne , Victoria , Australia

ISBN: 9780195526868

Binding: Paperback

[View textbooks at the CQUniversity Bookshop](#)

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Paloma Cesare Unit Coordinator

p.cesare@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 06 Mar 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Introduction to social policy	Chapter 1. Visit the study week schedule on Moodle for week 1 set readings and activities.	Refer to the Moodle Site for eFIL quiz and group discussion submission dates for week 2,4,6,8,10

Week 2 - 13 Mar 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
The welfare state and social policy	Chapter 2 and 6. Visit the study week schedule on Moodle for week 2 set readings and activities.	

Week 3 - 20 Mar 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Neoliberalism and social policy	Visit the study week schedule on Moodle for week 3 set readings and activities.	

Week 4 - 27 Mar 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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A framework for understanding and action

Chapter 3. Visit the study week schedule on Moodle for week 4 set readings and activities.

Week 5 - 03 Apr 2017

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Contexts for decisions and action

Chapter 4 and 5, p. 83-84 . Visit the study week schedule on Moodle for week 5 set readings and activities.

Vacation Week - 10 Apr 2017

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Week 6 - 17 Apr 2017

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Historical context of social policy and Australia in the new century

Chapter 16. Visit the study week schedule on Moodle for week 6 set readings and activities.

Week 7 - 24 Apr 2017

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Indigenous Australians

Visit the study week schedule on Moodle for week 7 set readings and activities.

Week 8 - 01 May 2017

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Income and employment (social security)

Chapter 9 and 10. Visit the study week schedule on Moodle for week 8 set readings and activities.

Written Assessment Due: Week 8 Friday (5 May 2017) 11:45 pm AEST

Week 9 - 08 May 2017

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Health and community services

Chapter 12 and 14. Visit the study week schedule on Moodle for week 9 set readings and activities.

Week 10 - 15 May 2017

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Education

Chapter 13. Visit the study week schedule on Moodle for week 10 set readings and activities.

Week 11 - 22 May 2017

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Human service work and social policy

Visit the study week schedule on Moodle for week 11 set readings and activities.

Week 12 - 29 May 2017

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Changes and challenges

Chapter 7. Visit the study week schedule on Moodle for week 12 set readings and activities.

Online Quiz(zes) Due: Week 12 Friday (2 June 2017) 11:45 pm AEST

Review/Exam Week - 05 Jun 2017

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Exam Week - 12 Jun 2017

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Assessment Tasks

1 Electronic Focused Interactive Learning (eFIL)

Assessment Type

Online Quiz(es)

Task Description

Electronic Focused Interactive Learning (eFIL) is an innovative method of assessment that encourages active learning and communication among students, irrespective of location. The eFIL technique will be used in assessable online exercises in weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10.

Each eFIL exercise will comprise a weighted 8% of the course grade. In total there are five fortnightly quizzes and online discussions to be completed.

What's Involved?

In weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 students will complete a multiple choice quiz containing 4 policy questions. The questions will be based on the fortnight's course content, with 2 questions for each study week (i.e. quiz 1 will include a question from week 1 and week 2's course content). Students will then re-sit the quiz after discussing their answers with peers in a small group online discussion forum. A detailed schedule of dates, times and quiz content will be posted on Moodle.

How is the eFIL different from a normal quiz?

eFIL assessment provides students with the opportunity to present and discuss their answers with a small group of students online, just as if they were in a classroom tutorial session.

From the Saturday to Monday evening following the completion of the fortnightly quiz, students will be able to enter a small group discussion forum, where they will have the opportunity to discuss and compare their answers with their peers. Students will then have until the Monday evening deadline to take the quiz a second time, with the benefit of knowing the views of other students. **Please note:** Only the second attempt is graded, although both attempts must be recorded to accrue points towards your overall grade.

There is **NO** opportunity to make up eFIL exercises due to their interactive nature. However in extenuating circumstances students can apply for an extension submitted through the AES (Assessment Extension System) located on the course Moodle site. In situations where an extension is approved, the student will not be required to partake in the small group discussion forum for that fortnight's quiz but will be graded on their first attempt of the quiz

Number of Quizzes

5

Frequency of Quizzes

Fortnightly

Assessment Due Date

eFIL activities are due fortnightly for weeks 2,4,6,8 and 10 of term

Return Date to Students

eFIL grades are normally available Tuesday following the second attempt

Weighting

40%

Assessment Criteria

In order to receive marks for the final quiz students must meet the minimum requirements for the group discussion (2 online posts) which include:

Discussion Post 1 (Post after completion of quiz 1):

- Post an explanation about WHY you chose the answers you selected for the quiz. An example of this, "I selected that the sky is blue because molecules in the air scatter blue light from the sun. This was substantiated by Jone and Jones 1992".

Discussion Post 2 (Response to another student):

- Respond to another student about their answer selection and discuss the content so that it provides insight and learning for your student peer. An example of this, "Thank you for your post. I was unaware that this was why the sky was blue and further research indicates that this is because we see red and orange colours because blue light has been scattered out and away from the line of sight".

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Instructions can be found on the website.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Compare and contrast the inherent value-judgements associated with social policy making
- Describe the nature of social policy making in Australia
- Apply a theoretical understanding of the policy process to selected social policy context
- Analyse the strategies and processes of policy development, analysis, negotiation and advocacy in a range of policy context in the Australian context

Graduate Attributes

- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Information Technology Competence

2 Electronic Focused Interactive Learning (eFIL)

Assessment Type

Group Discussion

Task Description

Electronic Focused Interactive Learning (eFIL) is an innovative method of assessment that encourages active learning and communication among students, irrespective of location. The eFIL technique will be used in assessable online exercises in weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10.

Each eFIL exercise will comprise a weighted 8% of the course grade. In total there are five fortnightly quizzes and online discussions to be completed.

What's Involved?

In weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 students will complete a multiple choice quiz containing 4 policy questions. The questions will be based on the fortnight's course content, with 2 questions for each study week (i.e. quiz 1 will include a question from week 1 and week 2's course content). Students will then re-sit the quiz after discussing their answers with peers in a small group online discussion forum. A detailed schedule of dates, times and quiz content will be posted on Moodle.

How is the eFIL different from a normal quiz?

eFIL assessment provides students with the opportunity to present and discuss their answers with a small group of students online, just as if they were in a classroom tutorial session.

From the Saturday to Monday evening following the completion of the fortnightly quiz, students will be able to enter a small group discussion forum, where they will have the opportunity to discuss and compare their answers with their peers. Students will then have until the Monday evening deadline to take the quiz a second time, with the benefit of knowing the views of other students. **Please note:** Only the second attempt is graded, although both attempts must be recorded to accrue points towards your overall grade.

There is **NO** opportunity to make up eFIL exercises due to their interactive nature. However in extenuating circumstances students can apply for an extension submitted through the AES (Assessment Extension System) located on the course Moodle site. In situations where an extension is approved, the student will not be required to partake in the small group discussion forum for that fortnight's quiz but will be graded on their first attempt of the quiz

Assessment Due Date

eFIL activities are due fortnightly for weeks 2,4,6,8 and 10 of term

Return Date to Students

eFIL grades are normally available Tuesday following the second attempt

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Assessment Criteria

In order to receive marks for the final quiz students must meet the minimum requirements for the group discussion (2 online posts) which include:

Discussion Post 1 (Post after completion of quiz 1):

- Post an explanation about WHY you chose the answers you selected for the quiz . An example of this, "I selected

that the sky is blue because molecules in the air scatter blue light from the sun. This was substantiated by Jone and Jones 1992" .

Discussion Post 2 (Response to another student):

- Respond to another student about their answer selection and discuss the content so that it provides insight and learning for your student peer. An example of this, "Thank you for your post. I was unaware that this was why the sky was blue and further research indicates that this is because we see red and orange colours because blue light has been scattered out and away from the line of sight".

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Instructions can be found on the website.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Compare and contrast the inherent value-judgements associated with social policy making
- Describe the nature of social policy making in Australia
- Apply a theoretical understanding of the policy process to selected social policy context
- Analyse the strategies and processes of policy development, analysis, negotiation and advocacy in a range of policy context in the Australian context

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Cross Cultural Competence

3 Written Assessment

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

In preparation for this assignment you are required to examine the:

- Stronger Futures Policy

Using the course material and independent reading, research the policy context which has shaped the policy-making within the social policy area you have chosen. Your paper should include:

- Research of the historical, social and economic, ideological, theoretical, and institutional context of the chosen policy area.
- A focus on the broader values and political contexts which have influenced the policy making process. For example, what were the significant triggers for major policy changes in the area you have selected (these may be key inquiries and reports, major economic changes, shift in societal perceptions on particular issues, and so on)
- The principles underpinning the welfare state and/or the neo-liberal state as the overall context shaping social policy.

The paper should be written in academic style, with an introduction, a body, a conclusion and a list of references.

Word Limit

1500 words (excluding references and appendices). You must remain within 10% of the word limit.

Assessment Due Date

Week 8 Friday (5 May 2017) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Monday (22 May 2017)

Weighting

30%

Minimum mark or grade

You must pass this assessment to pass the unit.

Assessment Criteria

- Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of the historical, political and normative contexts of social policy.
- Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of the principles underpinning the welfare state as the overall context shaping social policy.
- Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of principles underpinning neoliberalism as the overall context shaping social policy.
- Ability to produce a well written and presented essay using scholarly conventions.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submit via Moodle

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Compare and contrast the inherent value-judgements associated with social policy making
- Describe the nature of social policy making in Australia
- Apply a theoretical understanding of the policy process to selected social policy context
- Analyse the strategies and processes of policy development, analysis, negotiation and advocacy in a range of policy context in the Australian context
- Analyse their performance from feedback drawn from their involvement in professional learning contexts

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Team Work
- Information Technology Competence
- Ethical practice

4 Online Quiz(zes)

Assessment Type

Online Quiz(zes)

Task Description

The online multiple choice quiz will be made available at the appropriate time through the course website. It can be completed using any computer that has internet access. This quiz is set to test your understanding of fundamental concepts, perspectives and facts covered by the course content. It covers the 12 weeks of the course.

This is a timed online multiple choice quiz that must be completed on the due date between the hours of 4am and 11pm (Australian Eastern Standard Time). It will be delivered through the 'Assessment' block of the course website, and will only become available (and visible to students) on the due date.

Students will need to have access to a computer with Internet connection in order to complete the quiz. It is your responsibility to make time to complete the quiz on the due date, and to arrange for a reliable Internet connection.

Before you take the quiz, make sure that you are ready (i.e. a proper revision has been done) and choose a time and computer/place with minimum distraction to sit for the quiz (i.e. do not have external disturbances from people, pets, etc). Be conscious of the time limit while taking the quiz. Plan to have started the quiz by 11:00pm (AEST) at the latest to ensure full completion before the quiz closes at 11:45pm (AEST).

There will be 30 multiple choice questions to be answered in 40 minutes. There is only one correct or best answer to each question, and you need to select the option corresponding to this answer. There are no penalties for incorrect answers. While you are able to refer to the textbook or other resources while you are taking the quiz, you cannot afford to do this for every question because of the time limit. You need to have a good understanding of the course content before taking the quiz. Therefore there is an expectation that you have done all of the course core readings from Week 1 - 12.

Each student will receive a customised quiz, where questions are drawn from a large testbank and chosen in random fashion, so that collusion will not be possible.

Number of Quizzes

1

Frequency of Quizzes

Other

Assessment Due Date

Week 12 Friday (2 June 2017) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Provided on the quiz day after closure of the quiz

Weighting

30%

Assessment Criteria

No Assessment Criteria

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

The multiple choice quiz is undertaken online and reliable internet connection is required

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Compare and contrast the inherent value-judgements associated with social policy making
- Describe the nature of social policy making in Australia
- Apply a theoretical understanding of the policy process to selected social policy context
- Analyse the strategies and processes of policy development, analysis, negotiation and advocacy in a range of policy context in the Australian context

Graduate Attributes

- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Information Technology Competence

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem